We recently described a new, efficient Ru(II)-catalyzed cyclization of terminal alkyals to cycloalkenes. Heating the 5-alkynal in a 5% solution of the catalyst in AcOH afforded, after 24 h at 90 °C, the cyclopentene in excellent yield. Heating at higher temperatures led to faster reactions, but with increasing amounts of isomer. Use of the more electron-rich and sterically demanding catalyst gave similar results. Interestingly, addition of 5% of dppf to the reaction mixture led exclusively to .

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